

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session, Monday, January 27, 2014 with Commissioners Bruce Levi, Mark Bacon, Ken Masters, Mary Ann Beard, Auditor, and Leigh Morning, County Attorney in attendance.

Commissioner Bruce Levi called the meeting to order. Minutes of the December 30<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved on a motion by Ken Masters with Mark Bacon seconding the motion. The minutes of the meeting held January 13<sup>th</sup> were approved with Ken Masters offering the motion and Mark Bacon seconding the action.

### **ANDERSON TOWNSHIP EMS**

Several members of the Anderson Township Volunteer Ambulance Service appeared before the board. Nick White reported that several steps are being taken to improve the department. White shared that they are initiating a membership drive; they are providing EMT classes and are even considering a paid member to be on station during the day. Commissioner Levi asked if they are responding to their emergency calls. White replied that the department had missed one call and had not notified dispatch. All three Commissioners voiced their support of the service but emphasized that the lines of communication must improve. Township Trustee Karen Jenkins stated that the township is very supportive of the EMS service offering funds to provide the EMT training and extra funds to the department. The Commissioners will make the determination on the future of the EMS service on March 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **BOARD OF FINANCE**

Mark Bacon requested a recess to conduct the Board of Finance meeting. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Upon completion of the annual finance meeting, Ken Masters moved to reconvene the Commissioner's meeting. Mark Bacon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **EMA**

EMA director Chuck Kemker reported that the county had reached the minimum threshold for claims for disaster relief after a recent snow emergency. Kemker had also been notified that our request for relief in November had been denied. The Commissioners granted permission to submit a Competitive Grant application for \$1,111.95 for 3 thermal jackets for CERT team, \$1,581.82 for 2 sixty inch TV monitors, and \$2,549.00 for an interactive whiteboard for a total of \$5,179.77. Ken Masters moved to allow the application. Mark Bacon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The county was declared a code "red" on Saturday night due to the amount of cars that were stuck in the roads, hampering the roads being plowed. There was much discussion regarding means of improving the process of notifying the public in emergency situations.

The Commissioners applauded the Highway Department, the Sheriff's Department, and the EMS director for their dedication during the recent weather emergency.

### **CLERK**

County Clerk Debbie Richardson shared her views on notification of courthouse closures and the problem of patrons coming to the courthouse when it has been closed for a weather emergency.

Richardson then presented a contract for Microvote to provide annual maintenance for election software in the amount of \$9,500. Ken Masters moved to approve and Mark Bacon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **IT**

Randy Herbert IT administrator reported that he has been working with the EMA director to attain a Homeland Security Grant for additional security cameras at the courthouse. The cameras would be placed at the north and south entrances and in the elevator. Herbert also reported that several computers will need to be replaced because Windows XP will no longer be supported after April 8<sup>th</sup>. Permission was granted for Herbert to e-scrap several old computers that have Windows XP software.

### **MAYOR**

Mayor Mike Pavey and Shelly Wakefield of Jacobi, Toombs & Lanz appeared to propose a Joint Planning Department between the County and the City. The Mayor stated that the city's needs are becoming greater and the city would like to consolidate. He asked the county to incorporate the city into a hybrid plan working with budgets and individual options.

### **HIGHWAY**

Superintendent Jerry Sitton reported that he will have the contractor for the Carthage Pike in February. Snow removal has cost \$200,000 thus far with labor expenses at \$50,000. The Commissioners praised the Highway Department for doing an outstanding job. Permission was granted to hire a replacement for the vacancy left by Michael Niedenthal.

### **SHERIFF**

Chief Deputy Terry Drake reported 40 inmates in the county jail. Drake stated that the department would be trading in three patrol vehicles and replacing them with new ones. Drake also reported that there has been great cooperation between departments during the recent weather emergencies.

### **MILROY TIF**

Commissioner Levi signed the Milroy TIF Redevelopment document once again to make it effective January 21, 2014.

## AUDITOR

- Permission to provide a data down load of our GIS for Rushville City's comprehensive plan was granted. Motion by Ken Masters and seconded by Mark Bacon.
- Surety bond was signed for Teresa Nigh. Motion by Mark Bacon. Seconded by Ken Masters.
- Ambulance reports for Rush Memorial Hospital and Carthage Ambulance were reviewed. Mayor Pavey reported 55 runs in the city, a developing intercept agreement and great response from the emergency room.
- Auditor Beard reported that \$350,000 of the \$502,000 ambulance depreciation fund has been returned by Rush Memorial Hospital.

Mark Bacon moved to sign claims after a question regarding prisoner meals billed to the hospital. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Payroll was approved on a motion by Ken Masters and seconded by Mark Bacon.

Mark Bacon moved to adjourn. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

/s/ Bruce Levi  
Bruce Levi, Chairman

/s/ Mark Bacon  
Mark Bacon

/s/ Ken Masters  
Ken Masters

ATTEST:

/s/ Mary Ann Beard  
Mary Ann Beard, Auditor